Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 193016 TOSEC 200009

70
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011
DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON
APPROVED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON
---------- 005736
O 041924Z AUG 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE
USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 193016 TOSEC 200009

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT AMMAN 4064 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 04 AUG

QTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 4064

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR LE SY JO XF
SUBJECT: TALK WITH KING--SITUATION IN LEBANON AND SYRIA

1. I SAW KING HUSSEIN MORNING AUGUST 4 FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION BEFORE DEPARTING AMMAN FOR TEHRAN. GOOD PORTION OF OUR TALK CONCERNED LEBANON AND SYRIA

2. I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO THANK KING FOR HIS PREVIOUS REPORTS AND TO TELL HIM THAT OUR ATTITUDE AS CONVEYED IN MESSAGE LAST MONTH FROM YOU TO HIM REMAINED UNCHANGED.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 193016 TOSEC 200009

3. KING SAID THAT HE HAD ONLY TWO NEW ITEMS TO PASS ON

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

TO YOU. ONE CONCERNED THE ARRIVAL IN LEBANON OF SOME
60 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FROM
LIBYA AND THE OTHER INDICATED INCREASED NUMBERS OF
IRAQIS COMING INTO THE COUNTRY. I TOLD KING IN
RESPONSE THAT WE HAD SOME INDICATIONS OF FORMER
ACTIVITY.

3. KING THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT ASAD CONTINUES TO
REMAIN IN TOUCH AND CONTINUES TO REFLECT PRESSURE ON
HIM OVER LEBANESE SITUATION. KING WAS GENERAL AND
NOT SPECIFIC. BUT SAID ASAD CONTINUES TO REITERATE
TO HIM THE NEED FOR JORDAN AND SYRIA'S FRIENDS
TO UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUS REALITIES OF WHAT IS HAPPENING
IN LEBANON. AGAIN THE KING WAS NOT SPECIFIC BUT HE
IMPLIED TO ME THAT ASAD'S ALLUSIONS ARE VERY MUCH TO
SOVIET PRESSURE.

4. THE KING ASKED ME WHETHER OUR REPORTS TENDED TO
AGREE WITH WHAT HE HAD AND WITH WHAT THE SYRIANS
HAD. WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC, I TOLD HIM THAT IT WAS
HARD TO SAY WE HAD CONFIRMATION OF MUCH OF WHAT HE
HAD PASSED ON FROM INFORMATION AVAILABE TO ME PERSONALLY.
THIS WAS PARTICULARLY TRUE ABOUT
DIRECT SOVIET INVOLVEMENT BUT I CAUTIONED HIM THAT
HE MIGHT NOT HAVE THE FULL PICTURE.

5. KING SAID THAT MUCH OF THE INFORMATION WAS COMING
FROM COMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPTS AND HE HAD BECOME VERY
DISTRUSTFUL OF THAT SOURCE. HE SAID THAT IT WAS
PERFECTLY POSSIBLE FOR A GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION TO
BE PLANTED THIS WAY.

6. I ASKED THE KING ABOUT THE GOVERNMENTAL CHANGE N
SYRIA. HE SAID THAT ASAD HAD SPOKEN TO HIM SOME MONTHS
AGO ABOUT THE NEED FOR CHANGE. KING MADE CLEAR THIS
WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS OWN CHANGES IN JORDAN WHICH
WERE THEN ALSO BEING CONTEMPLATED.

7. ASAD, KING SAID WAS SOMEWHAT UNHAPPY WITH AYYUBI,
HAVING CALLED HIM A GOOD PEACTIME PRIME MINISTER BUT
SECRET

SECRET

WITH NO SENSE OF INTERNAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. KING ALSO
SAID THAT AYYUBI HIMSELF WAS UNHAPPY ABOUT SOME OF
PEOPLE AROUND ASAD, SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING ASAD'S
BROTHER RIF'AT.

8. KING CONCLUDED THAT CHANGES IN SYRIA CAME ABOUT
BECAUSE OF ASAD'S CONCERN OVER THE INTERNAL SECURITY
SITUATION (KING SAYS THERE HAVE BEEN REAL PROBLEMS IN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

THAT AREA), FAILURE OF SYRIAN GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE
FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SUFFICIENT ECONOMIC
BENEFITS FOR POPULATION AND BECAUSE
PRESENT GOVERNMENT HAD GROWN TIRED AND SOMEWHAT LAX
IN OFFICE AND WAS UNSUITED TO THE DEMANDS PLACED ON
IT BY THE SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN LEBANON.

9. KING THEN ALSO SAID THAT AHMED SHUKAIRY WAS BEING
PROMOTED BY THE LIBYANS AS A STALKING HORSE IN THE
ARAB WORLD TO GENERATE CRITICISM OF THE PRESENT PLO
LEADERSHIP. SHUKAIRY UNBEKNOWNST TO THE EGYPTIANS
WAS TO BE TOLD TO THEM BY LIBYANS THROUGH SAUDI
ARABIA AS A MEANS OF PLACING PLO PRESENT LEADER
SHIP BY DRUMMING UP POPULAR PALESTINIAN SUPPORT IN
THE REGION FOR SUCH A STEP. SYRIA WOULD ALSO BE SOLD
THE SAME THESIS AND BE ASKED TO PROMOTE A MEETING BETWEEN
SHUKAIRY AND JORDANIANS PALESTINIANS IN THE EAST AND
FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

10. KING SAID HE IS ADAMANTLY AGAINST SUCH A MOVE AND
HAS WARNED ASAD ABOUT THE PROPOSAL. AS FAR AS HE IS
CONCERNED SHUKARIY IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE IN ANY
CONTEXT ALTHOUGH KING STILL HOPES THAT SOME NEW
LEADERSHIP CAN EMERGE AMONG THE PALESTINIANS, PARTICULARLY
IN THE WEST BANK.

11. KING SUMMED UP HIS FEELING ABOUT FUTURE PEACE
MOVES IN THE AREA BY TELLING ME THAT (A) IT WOULD
BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE FOR JORDANIANS TO TRY TO
MOVE AHEAD NOW SEPARATELY, IT WOULD ONLY PROVIDE A CLOAK
OF TRUTH TO THE PRESENT CHARGES THAT THE UNITED
STATES, ISRAEL, JORDAN AND SYRIA HAVE ALL CONCLUDED
TO DESTROY THE PALESTINIANS AND REPLACE THEM WITH
SECRET

SECRET

JORDAN (B) KING BELIEVES OVER LONG RUN PEACE SETTLE-
MENT MUCH INCLUDE ALL AREAS OF CONFRONTATION AND THAT
SOMETHING MUST BE DONE FOR PALESTINIANS ALTHOUGH
HE SEEMS NOW MORE INTERESTED IN SEEING THIS TAKE PLACE
IN A CHANGED CONTEXT IT WOULD EVOLVE OUT OF PRESSURES
BEING EXERTED ON PRESENT PALESTINIANS LEADERSHIP IN
LIBYA BY SYRIA AND OTHERS. HE CLEARLY DOES NOT EXCLUDE
HIS OWN PARTICIPATION IN SOME "EVOLVED SITUATION" BUT
WITH CAVES THAT IT MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO OTHER
ARABS AND IN THE CONTEST OF A PEACE WHICH STIMULATES
RATHER THAN INHIBITS PROGRESS.

12. FINALLY KING ASKED ME TO EXTEND HIS BEST WISHES
TO YOU AND TO EXPLAIN TO YOU PERSONALLY HIS PRESENT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

THOUGHTS AND IDEAS. EX-PRIME MINISTER RIFAI WHO
WAS ALSO AWARE OF HIS CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THE KING
OF MY VISIT TO YOU ALSO ASKED ME TO PASS ON HIS
RESPECTS AND BEST WISHES.

13. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PASS DAMASCUS.
PICKERING UNQTE HABIB

SECRET

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TOSEC, CAT-C, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE193016
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:JHOGANSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760006-0121
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760886/aaaacyal.tel
Line Count: 176
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TALK WITH KING--SITUATION IN LEBANON AND SYRIA
TAGS: PFOR, LE, SY, JO, XF, LI, (HUSSEIN I)
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006